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# NEWS RELEASE

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## CITY OF IRONDALE CELEBRATES FUNDING FOR WATER SYSTEM

In a ceremony on October 26, 2010, Terry Luetkemeyer, Area Director of USDA Rural Development, presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the City of Irondale. The certificate was presented in recognition of the City of St. Mary and their efforts to stimulate the economy by utilizing \$745,000 in loan funds along with a \$847,000 grant provided by USDA Rural Development. The funding the city received from Rural Development was made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The city is utilizing the funds to install new water distribution lines and water meters along with constructing a 120 foot standpipe. In addition, funds will be used to make improvements at the city's two well sites and purchase a backup generator for the water system.

I'm pleased to hear that with the help of competitive grant funds from the USDA, the city of Irondale will be able to upgrade and improve its water distribution system," U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said. "Ensuring the community has access to clean water is crucial to the well-being of its citizens."

"This is a great partnership effort when everyone works together for a common goal of meeting the needs of a community in providing essential services," said USDA Rural Development State Director, Anita "Janie" Dunning. "This project mirrors USDA Rural Development's mission of being committed to the future of rural communities. I am pleased that so many rural households will benefit from an adequate and dependable water system." Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials for making available the federal funds for funding these projects."

"I greatly appreciate the participation of Rural Development and the Meramec Regional Planning Commission in helping the City to achieve the grants and loans required to do the necessary upgrades to the City's water system. I would like to thank Rural Development and the Meramec Regional Planning Commission on behalf of the City for helping to ensure the safety and adequate delivery of Irondale's drinking water," said Mayor Roy Kennon.



Pictured from left to right: Cassandra Hartz, City Clerk; Bill Byers, Water System Operator; Bob Burns, Representative from Senator Claire McCaskill's office; Terry Luetkemeyer, Rural Development Area Director; Albert Bieser, Board Member; Doris Keim, Mayor Pro Tem; Donna Martin, Rural Development Area Specialist.

**Anyone interested in obtaining information regarding assistance available through USDA Rural Development may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or can contact Donna Martin at the Area Office at the Farmington, MO by calling 573-756-6413, Ext. 5.**

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